

Application Serial No. 09/857,841  
Amendment dated 13 February 2006  
Reply to Office Action of 13 September 2005

### *AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS*

The listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

#### **Listing of Claims**

Claims 1-5 (Canceled)

Claim 6 (Currently amended): A method for enhancing production of a desired protein as part of a fusion protein in a plant cell or a plant which method comprises ~~inserting a first nucleic acid upstream of a second~~ providing a nucleic acid which encodes a fusion protein to a plant cell or plant, ~~wherein the fusion protein comprises to form a fused nucleic acid wherein said first nucleic acid encodes a~~ the protein of SEQ ID NO: 4 linked to the ~~and wherein said second nucleic acid encodes said~~ desired protein and further wherein said fused nucleic acid encodes said fusion protein the desired protein is heterologous to the protein of SEQ ID NO:4.

Claim 7 (Original): The method of claim 6 wherein the carboxy terminus of said protein of SEQ ID NO:4 forms a peptide linkage with the amino terminus of said desired protein.

Claim 8 (Currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said ~~first nucleic~~ nucleic acid comprises ~~bases~~ nucleotides 6-47 of SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 9 (Currently amended): The method of claim 6 wherein said ~~fused~~ nucleic acid is under the control of a CaMV 35S promoter.

Claims 10-14 (Canceled)

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Claim 15 (Currently amended): A nucleic acid vector ~~capable of transforming a plant cell wherein said vector comprises~~ comprising a plant-expressible promoter operably linked to a nucleic acid which encodes a fusion protein wherein said fusion protein comprises a the protein of SEQ ID NO:4 linked to a protein of interest, wherein the protein of interest is heterologous to the protein of SEQ ID NO:4.

Claim 16 (Original): The vector of claim 15 wherein said protein of SEQ ID NO:4 is linked in a peptide linkage at its carboxy terminus to the amino terminus of said protein of interest.

Claim 17 (Currently amended): The vector of claim 15 wherein said nucleic acid is under the control of a CaMV 35S promoter.

Claim 18 (Currently amended): The vector of claim 15 wherein said vector comprises ~~bases~~ nucleotides 6-47 of SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 19 (Canceled)

Claim 20 (Original): A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 15.

Claims 21-22 (Canceled)

Claim 23 (Previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid comprising SEQ ID NO:3.

Claim 24 (Previously presented): An isolated nucleic acid consisting of SEQ ID NO:3.

Claims 25-32 (Canceled)

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Claim 33 (New): The method of claim 6, wherein the plant cell or plant is transfected with the nucleic acid.

Claim 34 (New): The method of claim 6, wherein the plant cell or plant is transformed with the nucleic acid.

Claim 35 (New): A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 16.

Claim 36 (New): A plant cell or a plant comprising the vector of claim 17.